

Bush tucker



Focus Questions

1. What special ingredients does Kylie Kwong's new menu feature?
2. Give some examples of the ingredients she is using.
3. In your own words, describe what bush tucker is.
4. Explain the bush tucker program being run at Renmark High School.
5. What native foods are the students growing?
6. What have the students learnt about growing indigenous plants?
7. Which indigenous food is also known as the desert raisin or bush tomato
 - a. Marsdenia
 - b. Quandong
 - c. Kutjera
8. What happened to the school's crop of passion berries?
9. What are the students making with the indigenous ingredients?
10. What do you think are the benefits of growing and using bush tucker?

EPISODE 17

19TH JUNE 2012

Learning Area

Society and Environment

Key learning

Students will design and plant a bush tucker garden for their school.

Bush tucker

Students will explore what bush tucker is in more depth by designing an edible indigenous garden for their school. Before students begin to design a bush tucker garden, ask them to complete the quiz on the following page.

Clarify what students already know about bush tucker and indigenous plants. Do indigenous plants exist in your school grounds already?

Ask students to investigate plants used by indigenous people, not just as a source of food but to provide shelter and medicine. When the class has developed a list of possible plants to include in the garden, they will need to make decisions about which ones to include. Things to consider are:

- Will the garden just focus on bush tucker or indigenous plant use?
- Which plants are indigenous to the local area?
- How easy are the plants to obtain?
- Size of the plants – how large will they grow (how much space is available for the garden)?

When students have decided which plants to include, they work on the layout of the garden. Things to consider when designing a garden include position (sun or shade required) type of soil and how much water the plants will need.

As a class, decide what material will be needed to support their garden. Think about what signage is needed, whether a brochure that describes the name and use of each plant, or information on the school's website would be useful.

Further Investigations

Find a recipe that uses Australian native food or create your own recipe using ingredients that are easy to obtain. Hold a native food tasting and invite students from other classes to join in.

Create a slide show of edible indigenous plants that includes information about what the food tastes like and how it can be used in cooking.

Bush tucker quiz

1. Which Aussie bush tucker is also known as the desert peach
 - a) Wattle seeds
 - b) Bunya nut
 - c) Quandong
 - d) Muntries

2. What animal is responsible for making 'Sugar Bag', which is a highly prized Aussie bush tucker?
 - a) Cicada
 - b) Native Ant
 - c) Native Bee
 - d) Monarch Butterfly

3. The seed of which Australian native plant is popular in bush tucker breads and desserts like pavlova?
 - a) Grevillea
 - b) Wattle
 - c) Sesame
 - d) Native Rosemary

4. Indigenous people used native plants for
 - a) Food
 - b) Medicine
 - c) Shelter
 - d) All of the above

5. Which bush tucker grows well in coastal areas and inland salt flats
- a) Samphire
 - b) Macadamia
 - c) Illawarra plums
 - d) Native pear
6. Which bush tucker plant is likened to spinach?
- a) Pepper leaf
 - b) Warrigal greens
 - c) Sea parsley
 - d) River mint
7. The marsdenia is also known as
- a) Native thyme
 - b) Saltbush
 - c) Tanami apple
 - d) Bush banana
8. Which indigenous food is also known as the desert raisin or bush tomato
- a) Marsdenia
 - b) Quandong
 - c) Kutjera
 - d) Salt bush

Answers on the next page

 [Related Research Links](#)

ABC Landline – Tucker time

<http://www.abc.net.au/landline/content/2012/s3522037.htm>

Sydney University – Aboriginal use of native plants

http://sydney.edu.au/science/uniserve_science/school/curric/stage4_5/nativeplants/gallery/index.html

Australian Native Food Industry – Information about

<http://www.anfil.org.au/>

Answers

- 1 c. Quandong
- 2 c. Native bee
- 3 b. Wattle
- 4 d. All of the above
- 5 a. Samphire
- 6 b. Warrigal greens
- 7 d. Bush banana
- 8 c. Kutjera